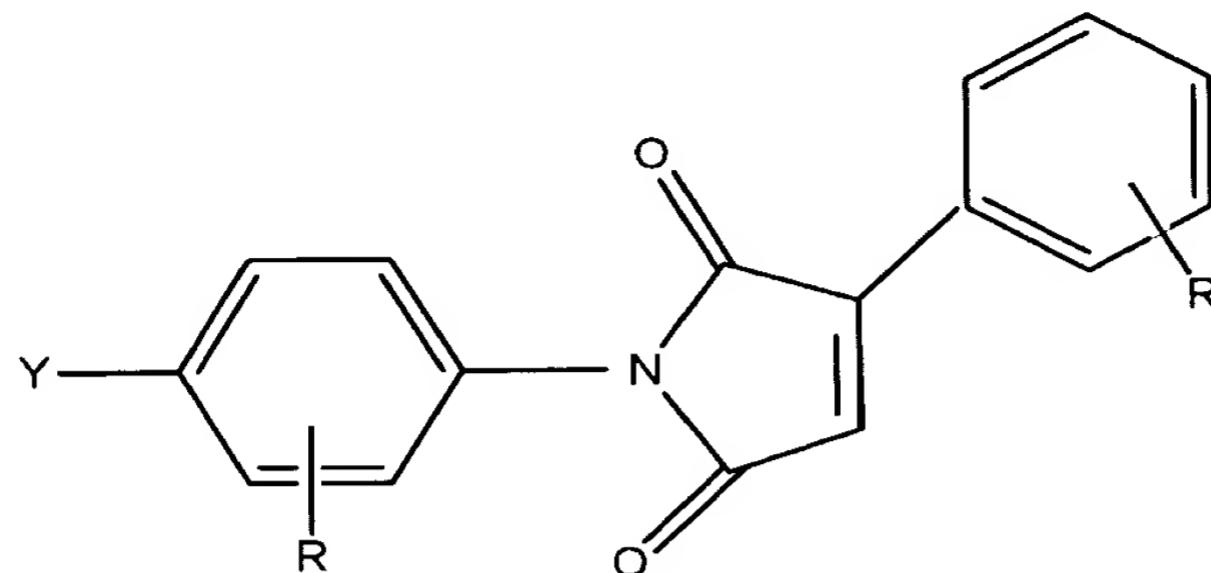


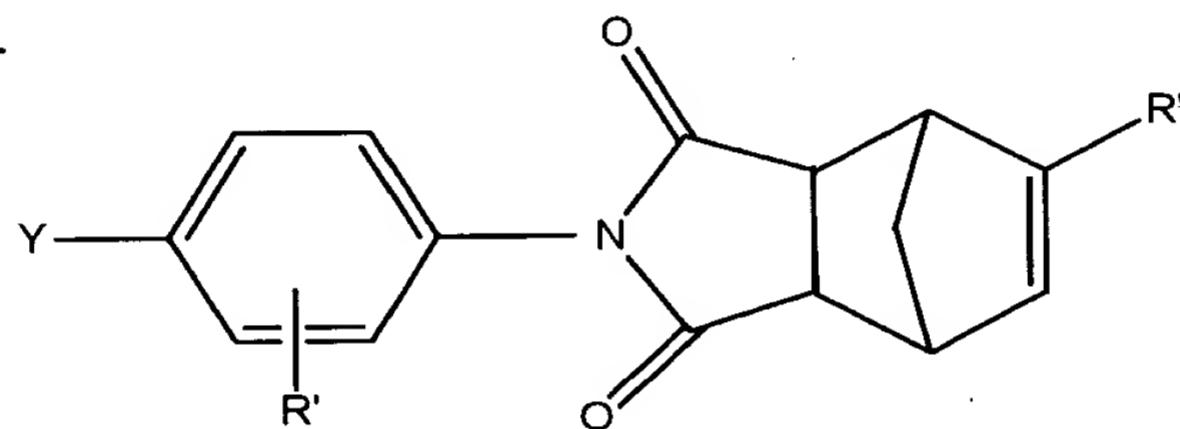
A4



II

~~Page 7, line 2, please delete the general formula and replace with:~~

A5



III

~~Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:~~

A6

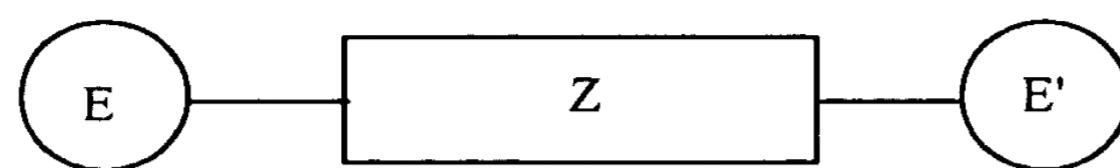
Into a 250 mL two-neck round bottom flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer, condenser and a nitrogen gas inlet was placed 4-aminobenzoic acid (8.0 g, 58 mmol), 4-phenylethynylphthalic-anhydride (14.5 g, 58 mmol) and 150 mL glacial acetic acid. This mixture was stirred at 25° C for 1 hour after which the temperature was raised to reflux for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to 25° C and the precipitated product was collected by filtration, washed twice with hot ethanol and dried under vacuum at 100° C for 8 hours.

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Please cancel claims 1-10 and replace with the following claims:~~

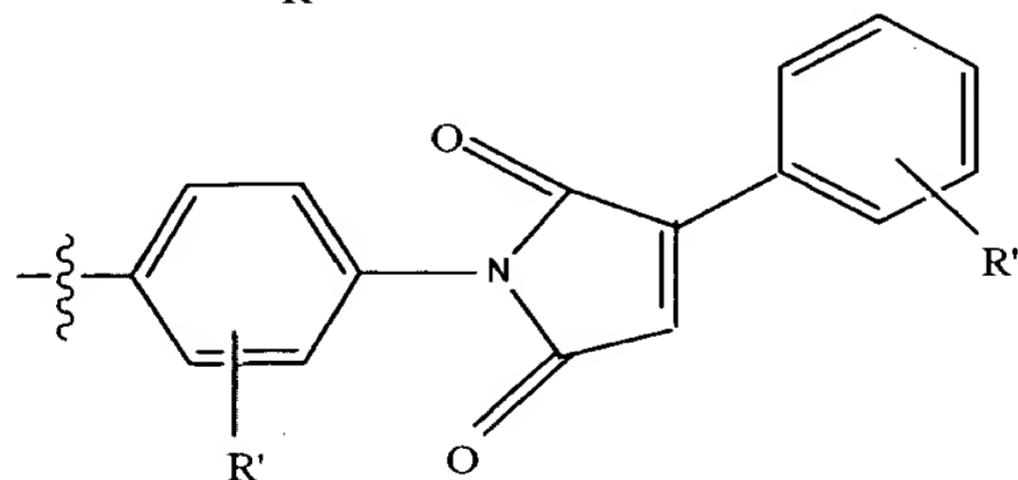
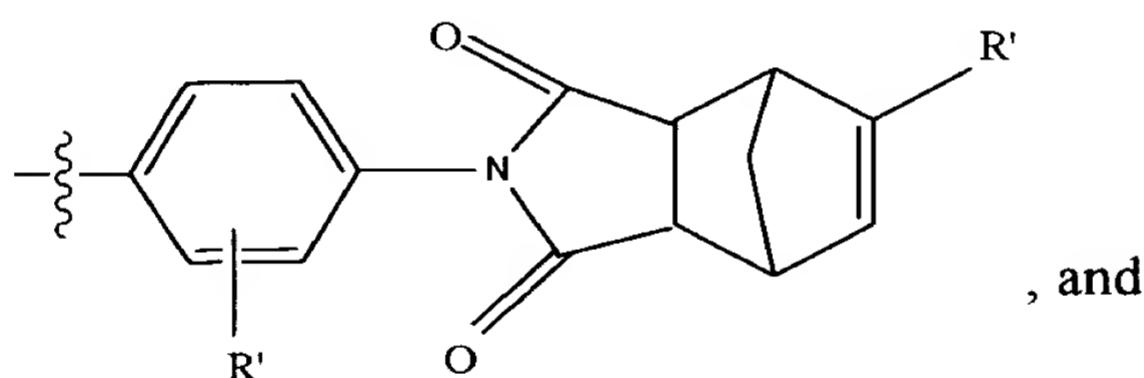
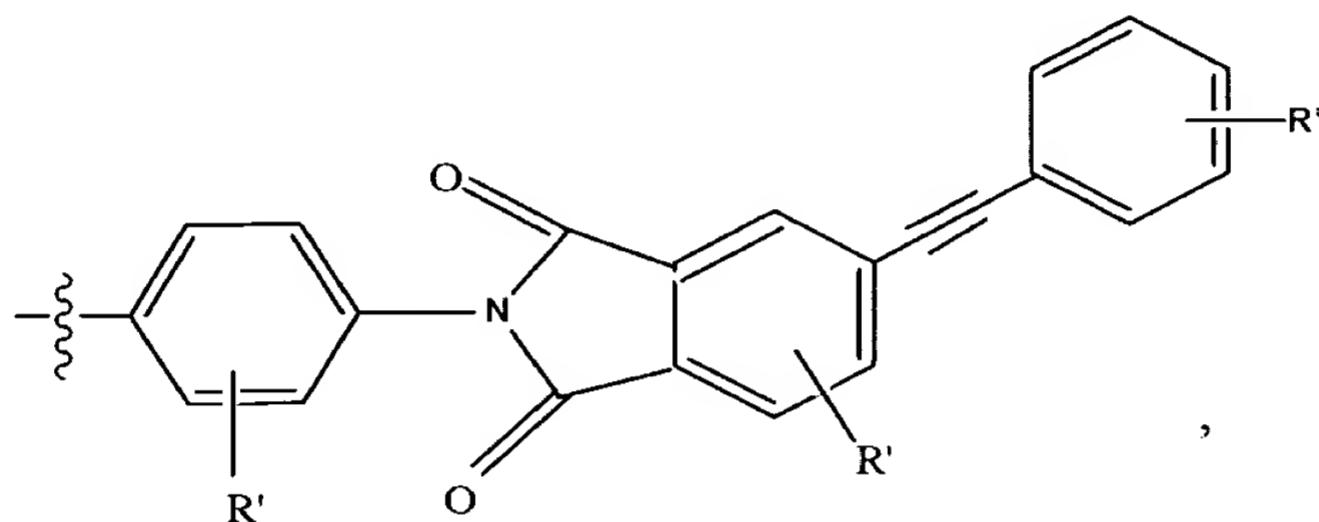
11. An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps comprising the general structure:

A7



wherein Z is a liquid crystal backbone of the oligomer mixture selected from the group consisting of an ester, an ester-imide and an ester-amide,

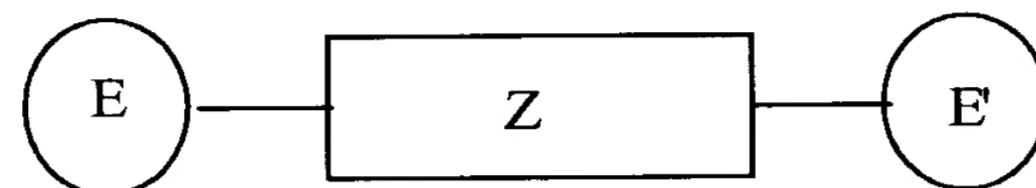
wherein E and E' are selected from the group consisting of



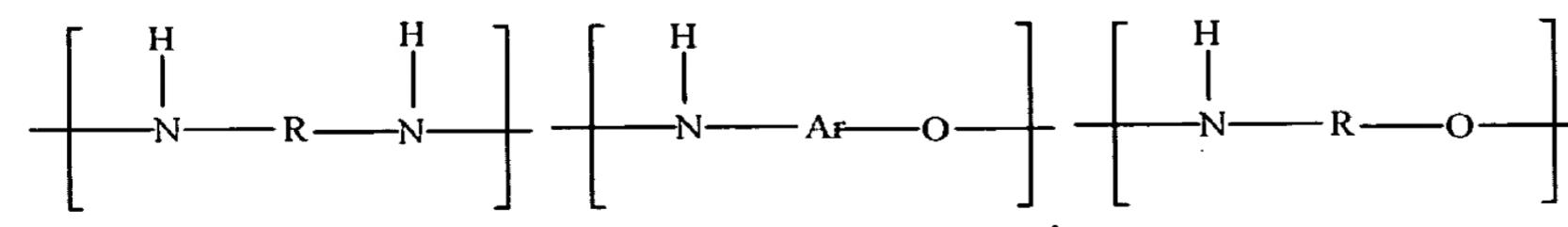
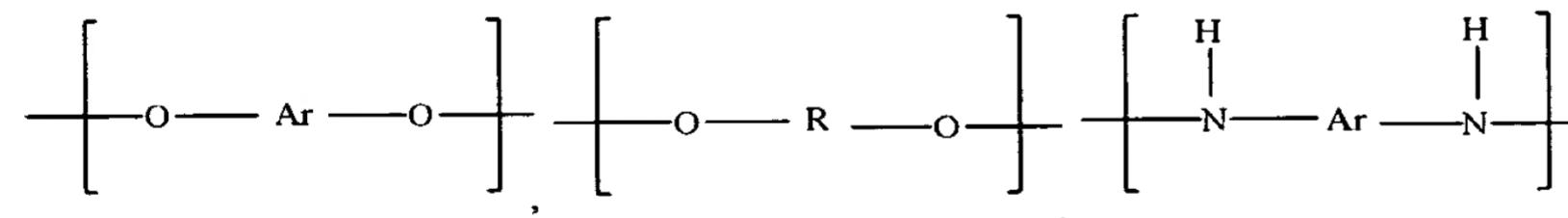
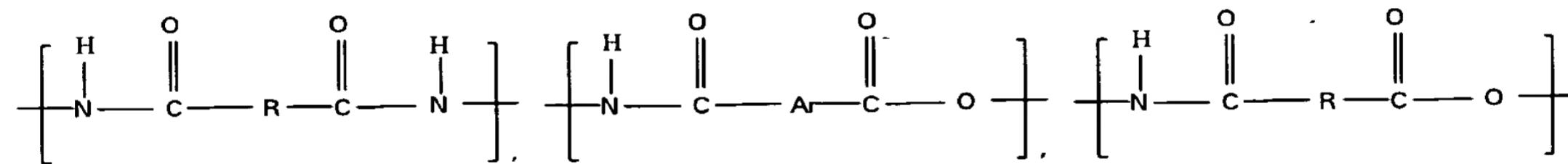
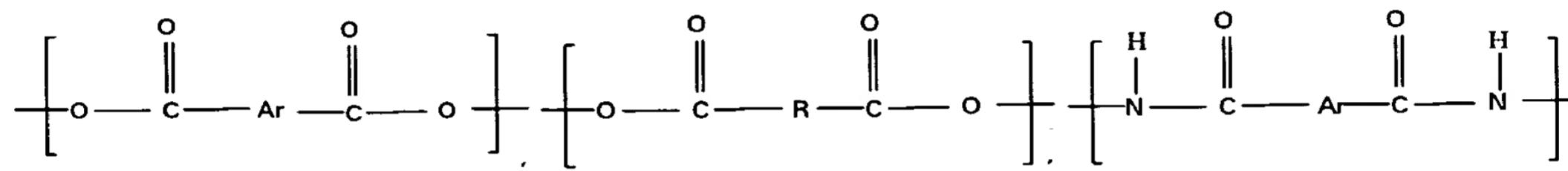
A7
cont.

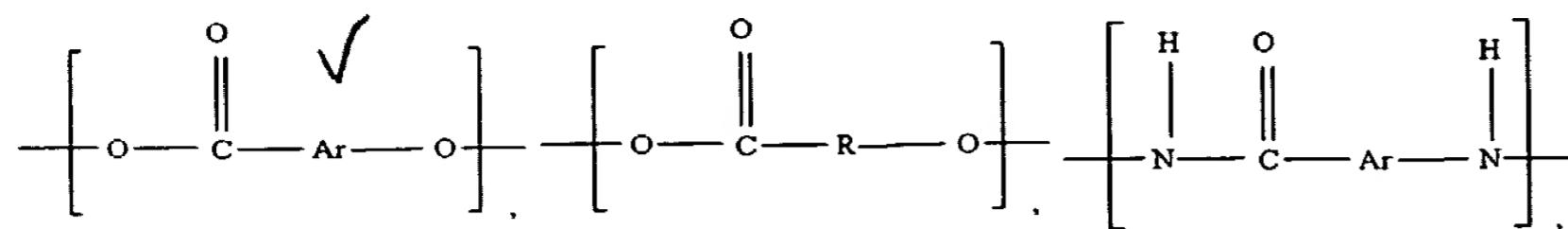
wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl groups containing six or less carbon atoms, aryl groups containing less than ten carbon atoms, lower alkoxy groups containing six or less carbons, lower aryloxy groups containing ten or less carbon atoms, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine.

12. An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps comprising the general structure



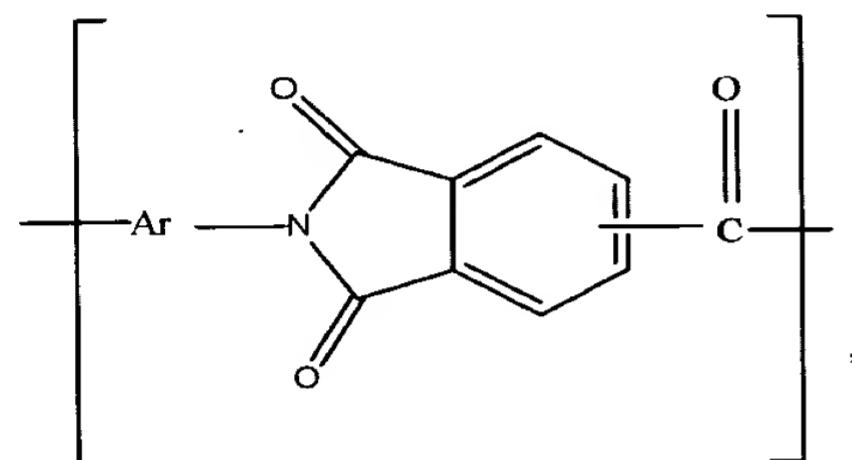
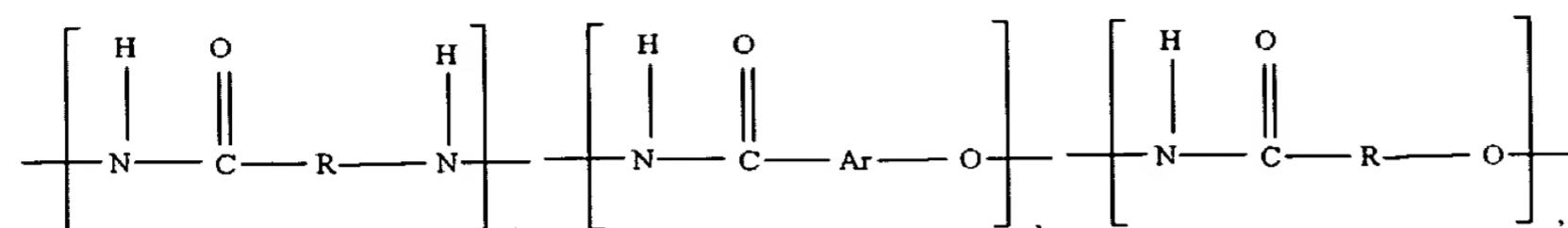
wherein Z is a liquid crystal backbone of the oligomer mixture having at least one structural repeat unit selected from the group consisting of



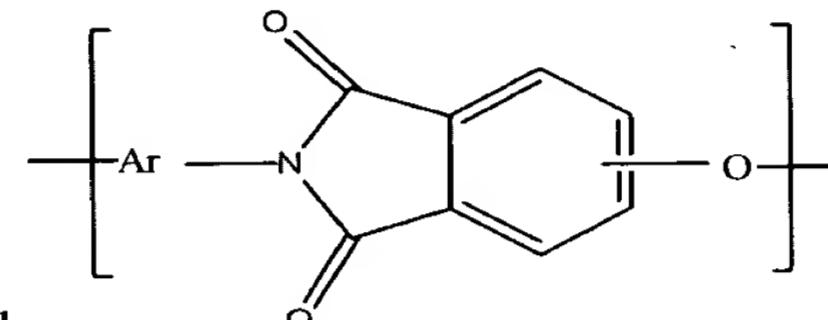


P7

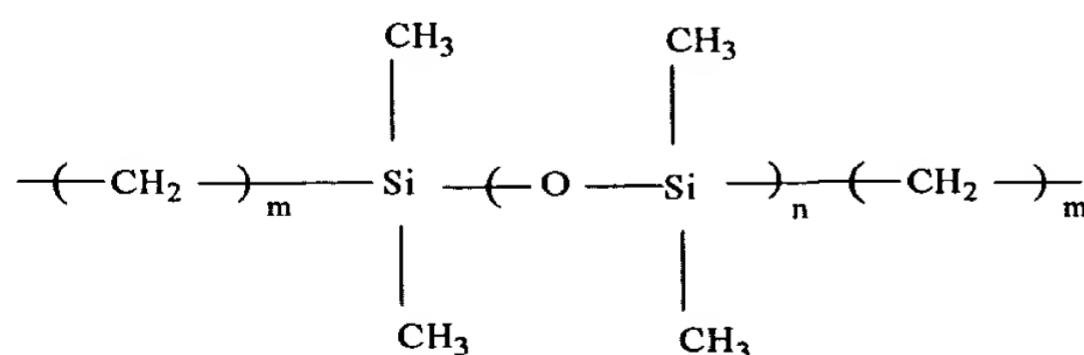
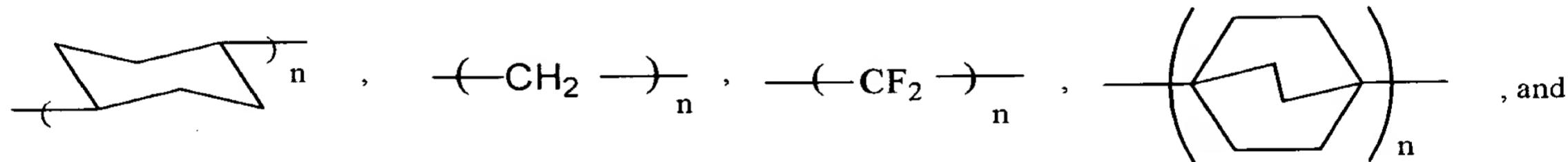
Cont.



and



wherein R is selected from the group consisting of

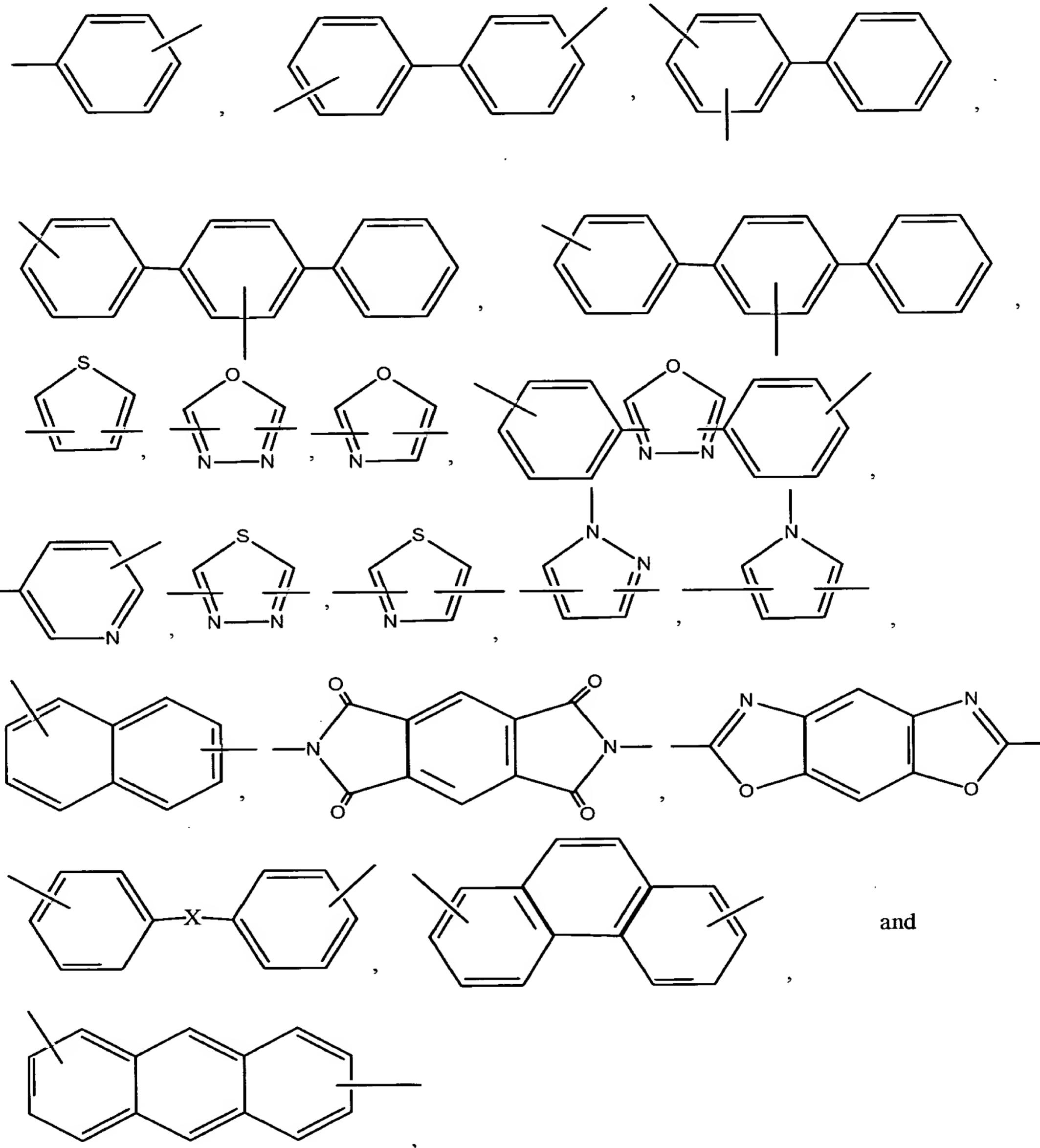


wherein n is a number less than 500,

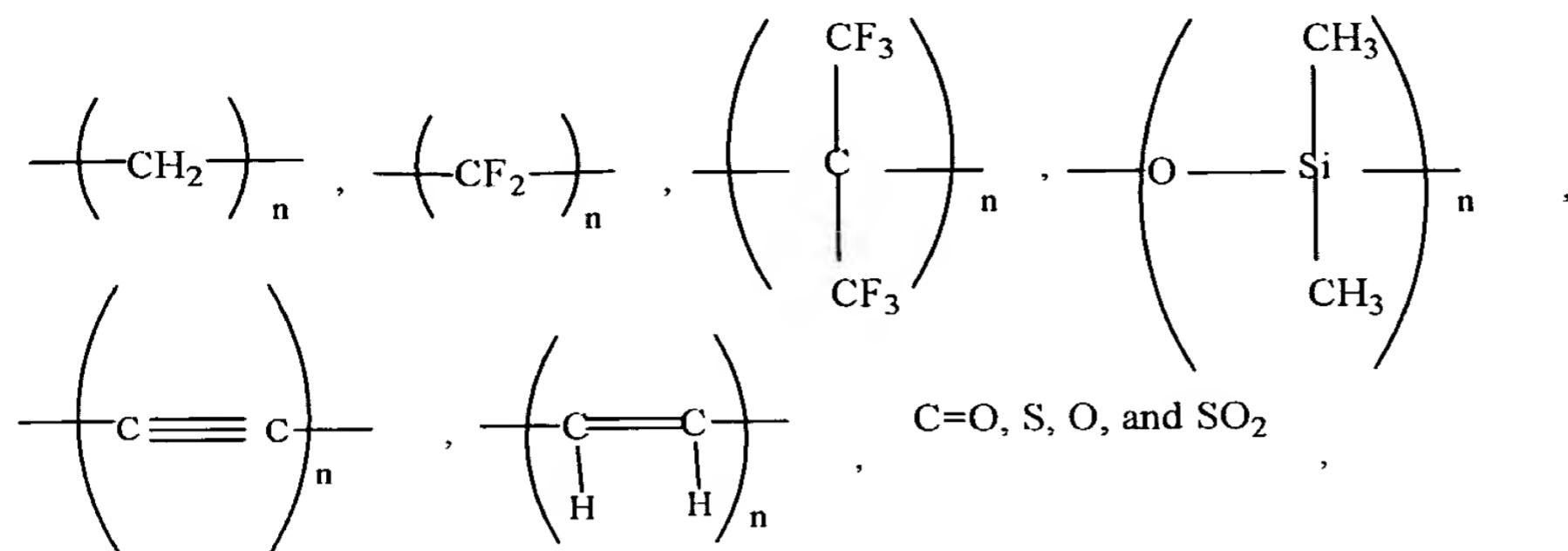
wherein m is a number less than 500,

wherein Ar is selected from the group consisting of

AM
Cost.

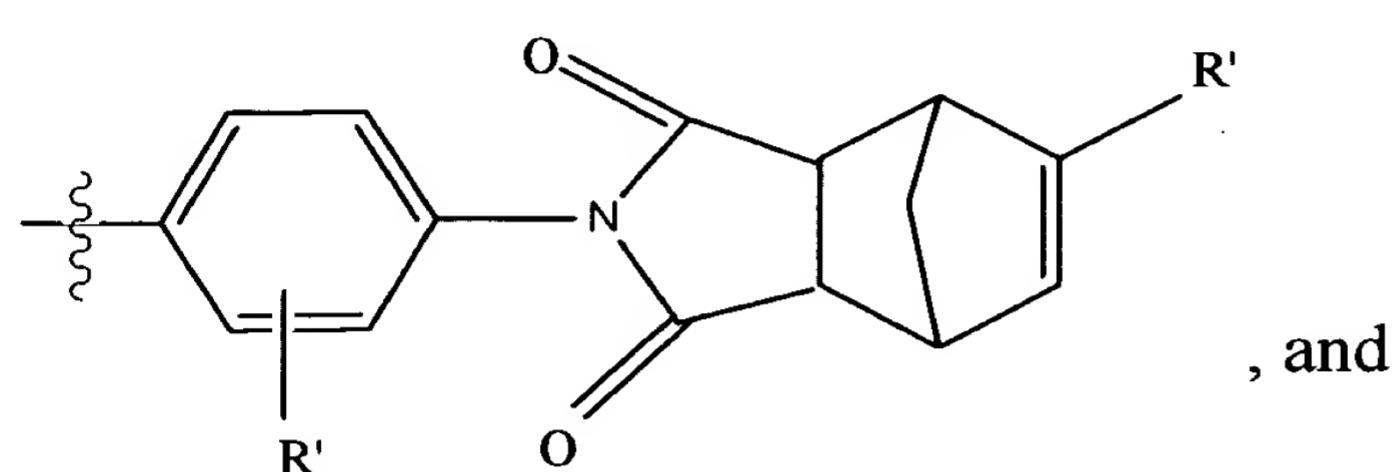
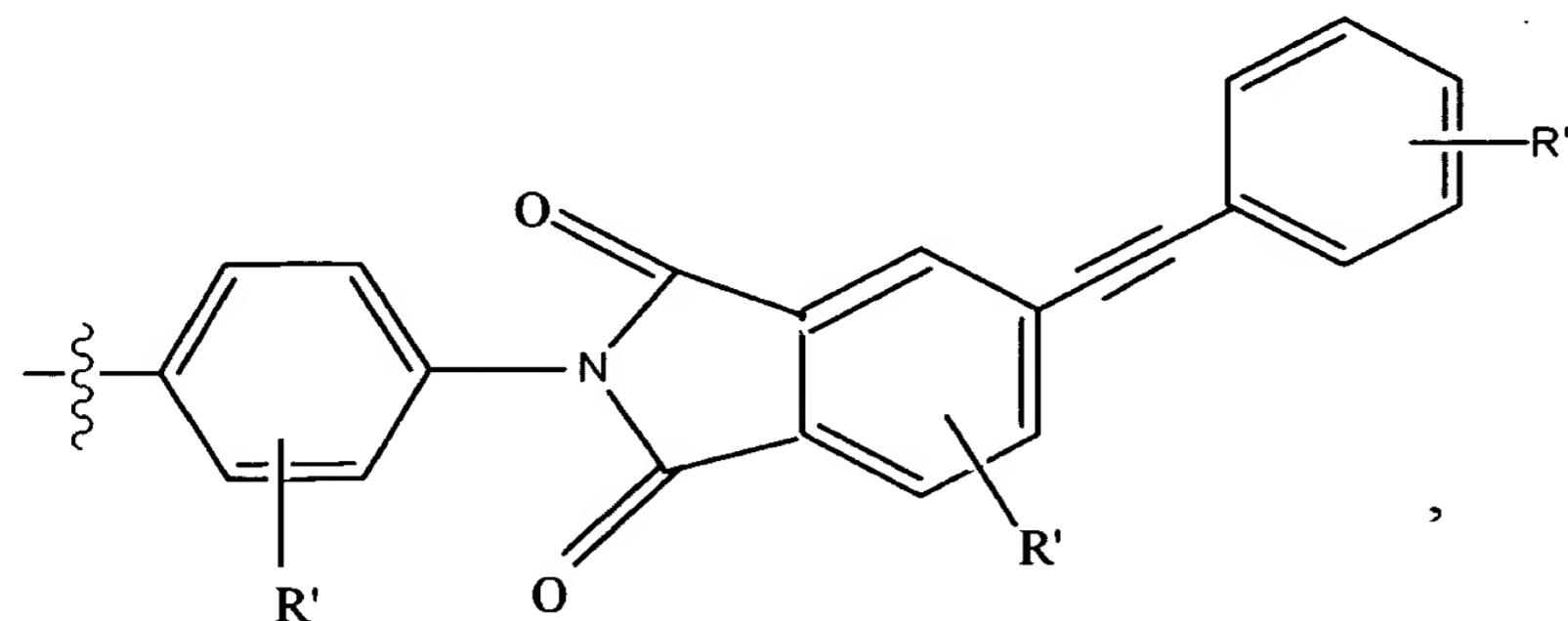


wherein X is selected from the group consisting of

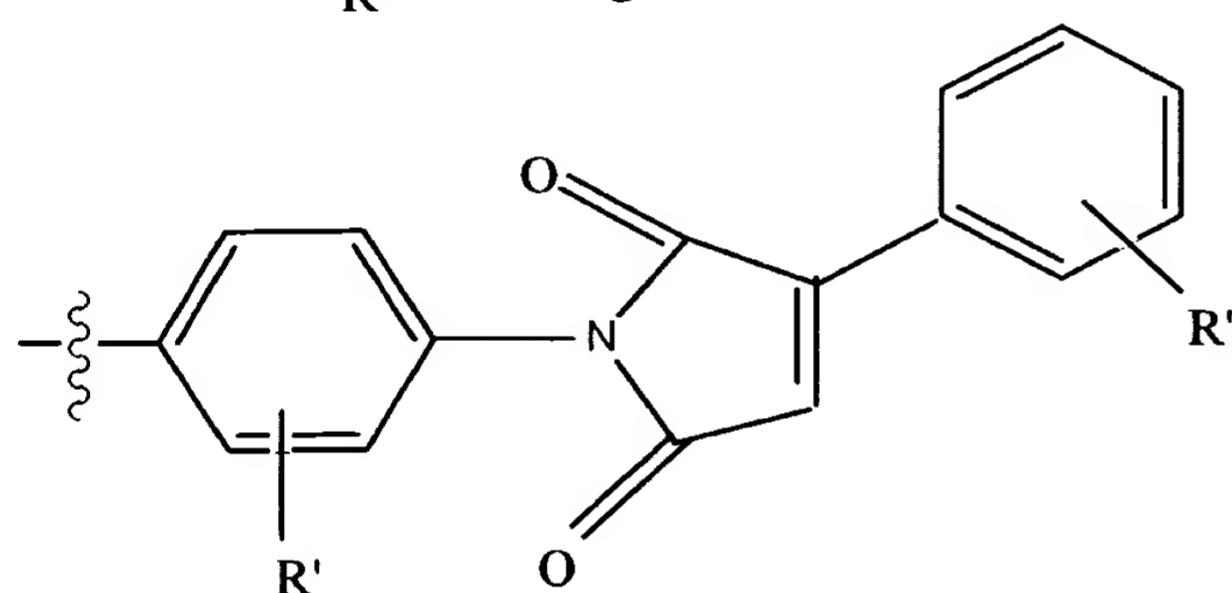


wherein n is a number less than 500,

wherein E and E' are selected from the group consisting of



, and



wherein R' can be selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl groups containing six or less carbon atoms, aryl groups containing less than ten carbon atoms, lower alkoxy groups containing six or less carbons, lower aryloxy groups containing ten or less carbon atoms, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine.

A1
✓
13. An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps as claimed in claim 11, wherein E and E' are identical.

14. An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps as claimed in claim 11, wherein the molecular weight range of the oligomers is between approximately 1000 and approximately 15,000 grams per mole.

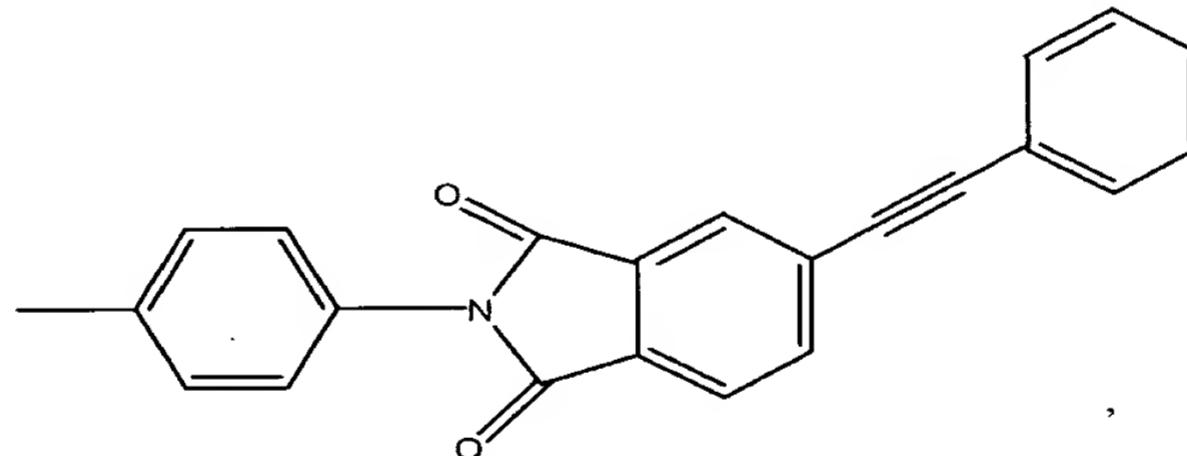
15. An oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps as claimed in claim 11, wherein the melt viscosities of the oligomer mixture is between approximately 1 and approximately 250 poise at approximately 200° C to approximately 350° C.

16. A polymer product comprising an oligomer mixture with self-reactive end-caps according to claim 11 wherein said product is prepared by a process selected from the group consisting of melt processing, molding, fiber spinning, reactive injection molding (RIM), resin transfer molding (RTM), resin film injecting (RFI), powder molding, injection molding, blow molding, thermo-forming, plasma spraying, and pultrusion molding.

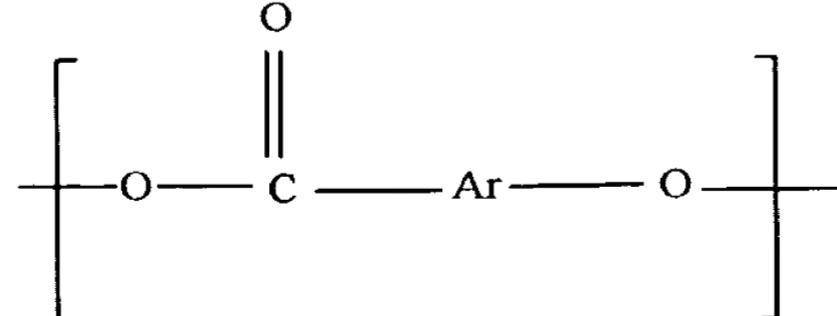
17. The polymer product of claim 11 wherein said product is a form selected from the group consisting of a fibre, filament, coating, film, lining, tube, pipe, sheath, sheet, and panel.

✓ 18. An oligomer mixture as in claim 12 wherein

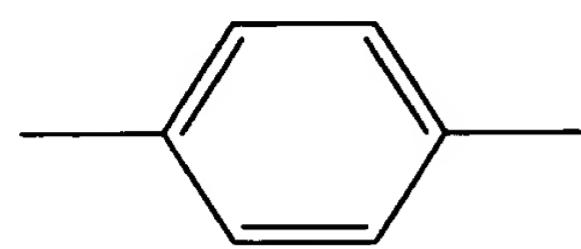
E and E' are



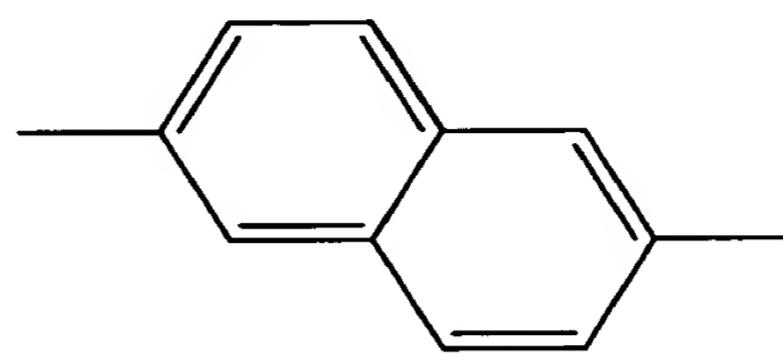
Z is



wherein Ar is



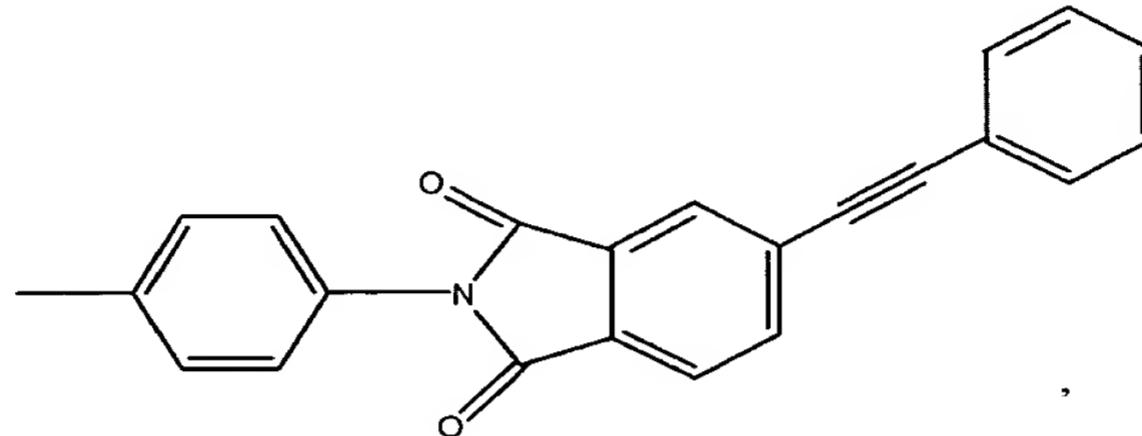
and



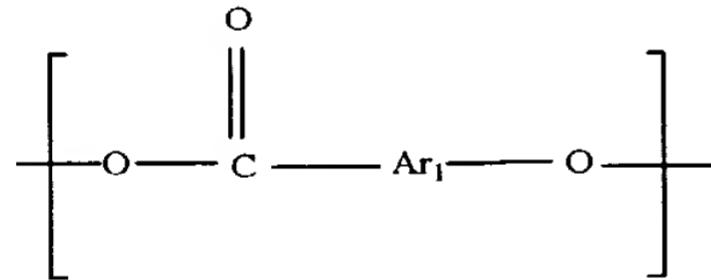
A1
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19. An oligomer mixture as in claim 12 wherein

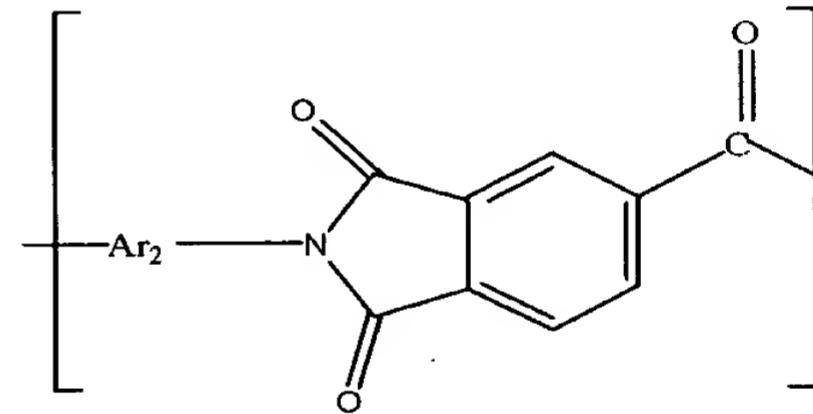
E and E' are



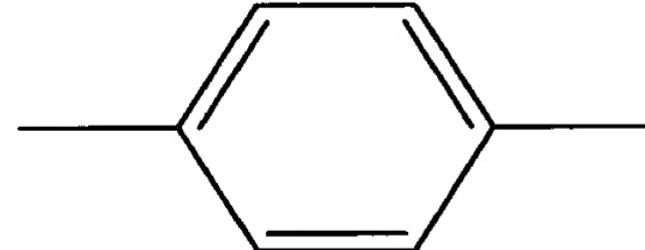
Z is



, and

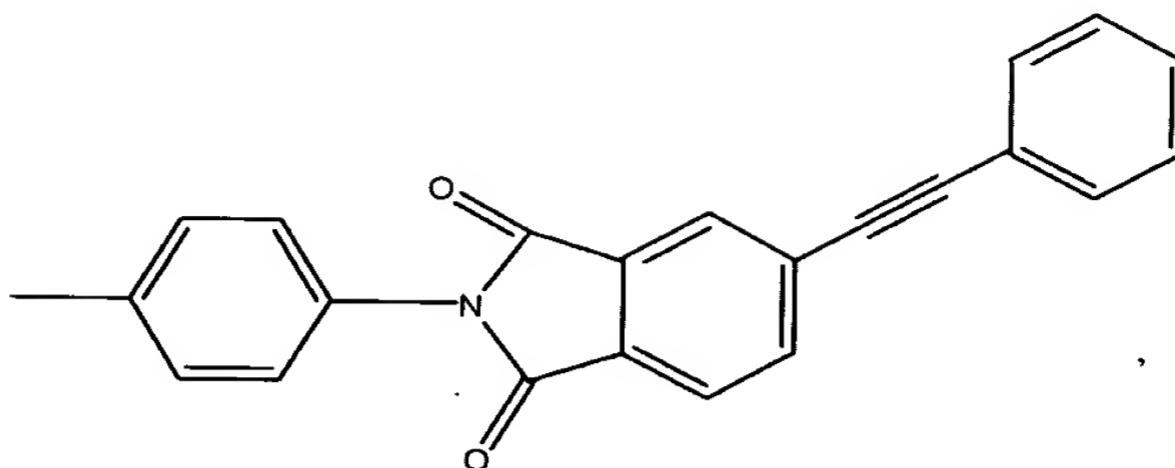


wherein Ar₁ and Ar₂ are

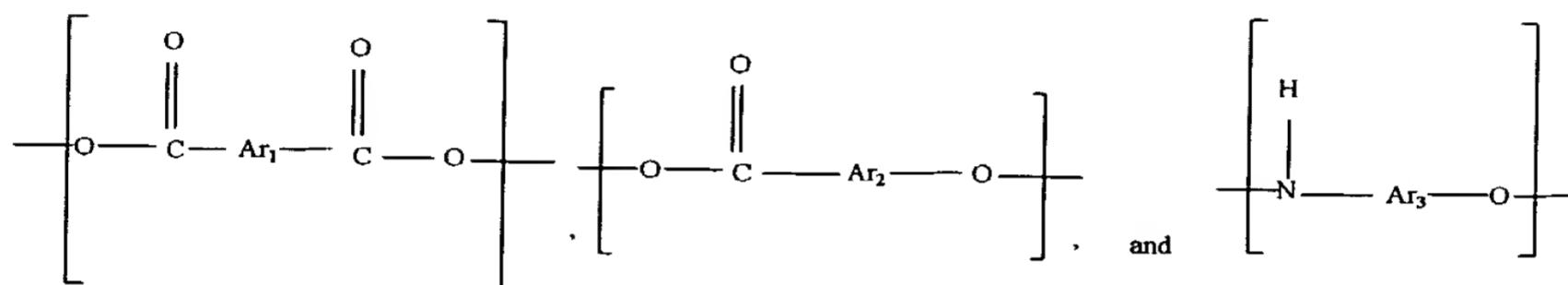


A7
20. An oligomer mixture as in claim 12 wherein

E and E' are



and Z is selected from the group consisting of



where Ar₁ and Ar₃ are



and Ar₂ is

